

KYRGYZSTAN: Democracy and Media

Strategic Objective	The Challenge, Problem, Opportunity	The "Business Case" for changing behavior	Proposed Intervention/Activity	Expected Result/Impact	Timeframe
SO 2.1 Strengthened democratic culture among citizens and targeted institutions (DM)	Public officials have no understanding of (or choose to ignore) conflict of interest	Widespread misuse of public funds, authority and blurring of barriers between private and public sectors			Parliamentary Elections in 2005 may provide a basis of political support for some of these suggestions
	Public officials need ethics and other professional training even more than NGOs	Ignorance of law and unethical behavior leads to rent-seeking and bribery	Public Education regarding costs of corruption must be disseminated to society	Public will be able to have some models of integrity and knowing costs may decrease willingness to engage in corrupt acts	
	Many Keneshler officials do not understand purpose of public hearings and think of them as NGOs responsibility	Keneshler need to assume parliamentary responsibilities such as budget hearings, for democracy to survive	Expand and professionalize budget hearings with Keneshler (not NGOs) the primary focus and recipient of TA	Parliament will be strengthened in basic oversight and fiscal functions it currently does not understand or weakly enforced	
	Rapidly deteriorating environment for freedom of the press; journalistic self-censorship widespread	Absence of information leads to widespread abuses of power and authority	Focus on lower-level governance efforts--village councils, school committees	Models of successful behavior change and new incentives have better chance of success at lower levels	
	Narrowing space for political reforms of any kind--growing authoritarian environment	Authoritarian systems much poorer at fighting corruption than democratic ones			
	Donors work at cross purposes and do not share information readily with each other	Duplication of efforts and lack of coordination undermine all technical assistance programs	Donor Co-Ordinating Committee needs to be established in country	'United Face' on corruption would permit much less space for GOKyr to ignore the issues or talk around them	OSCE/World Bank/UNDP Corruption Assessment in April and May Conference provides foothold for such a Committee to be established soon